

10,000 TREES INITIATIVE

TREE INFO CARD

Serviceberry

(Amelanchier spp.)

Get to know your tree:

The serviceberry is a family of species, several of which are native to Michigan. Most species are shrub-like, while some can grow to be small trees. All species have small, rounded, toothed leaves. Fall leaf color ranges from yellow to red to purple. Flowers are small but showy, and are white in color. Fruits are small blue-black berries similar in appearance and taste to blueberries. Bark is smooth and pale grey, with striations.

Tree benefits:

Each year, a 1-inch diameter serviceberry provides approximately \$9.00 in benefits and reduces atmospheric CO₂ levels by 11 pounds. To learn more about the benefits provided by your tree, or to see the benefits provided by larger serviceberries, visit www.treebenefits.com.



Fun facts about your tree:

The fruits of the serviceberry are edible for humans and are rich in iron and copper. They taste like a cross between a blueberry and a blackberry!

The exact number of species of serviceberry is still up for debate, with opinions ranging from as few as three species to as many as twenty-five! Differences between species are slight and highly variable.



Plant your tree:

When choosing where to plant this tree, consider spots with at least partial sun exposure (at least 4 hours of sun per day), though most serviceberries will tolerate shade. Serviceberries, depending on species, may grow to heights of 20-25 feet, with a spread of around 20-25 feet. They do best in moist, slightly acidic soils.

For detailed planting instructions, please visit www.arborday.org/trees/planting. And always make sure to call Miss Dig (1-800-482-7171) to mark underground utilities before digging on your property!

Care for your tree:

This species is somewhat sensitive to drought, so may require frequent watering. Watering should be done during dry periods - especially in the summer - but there's no set amount of water your tree needs. Instead, how much you water should be based on the soil. Check the soil at a depth of two inches - if it's moist, there's no need to water. But if it's dry, you should water your tree! Make sure not to water if the temperature is below freezing. Most trees need watering during the first two years after planting - but keep an eye on older trees as well.

